

## **TITLE 16. VETERINARY MEDICAL BOARD**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Veterinary Medical Board (hereinafter “board”) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest. Any person interested may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the action proposed at a hearing to be held at the Veterinary Medical Board, 1424 Howe Avenue, Conference Room F, Sacramento, CA 95825 at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 9, 2003. Written comments, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail to the addresses listed under Contact Person in this Notice, must be received by the board at its office not later than 5:00 p.m. on July 7, 2003, or must be received by the board at the hearing.

The board, upon its own motion or at the instance of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposals substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal will be available for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as contact person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

### **Authority & Reference**

Pursuant to the authority vested by Sections 4808 and 4848 of the Business and Professions Code, and to implement, interpret or make specific Sections 4841.5, 4842.5 and 4843 of said Code, the board is considering changes to Division 20 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations as follows:

### **INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW**

Existing law authorizes the Veterinary Medical Board to approve curriculum in veterinary technology for persons applying to take the Registered Veterinary Technician (RVT) examination. This regulatory proposal will amend those regulations related to the criteria for evaluation of equivalent RVT programs, subsequent inspections, and placing a school on probation. This regulatory proposal will also adopt regulations to address withdrawal of approval of accreditation, outline procedures for probation or withdrawal of approval, and program director notification requirements.

**1. Amend Section 2065.** This proposed amendment would require the school to visit and initiate a written agreement with the clinical rotation/externship sites prior to beginning student rotations and externships. The proposed amendment outlines education, teaching experience, and training requirements for program directors, interim program directors, and instructors, and defines the student-to-instructor ratio for lab classes. This amendment would require the school to disclose to the student, prior to enrollment, the school’s pass rate for first time candidates and the state average pass rate for first time candidates within the last two years on the RVT exam, along with a description of RVT registration requirements. The amendment would also require the school to provide prospective students with information in writing regarding transferability of units.

**2. Amend Section 2065.7.** This proposed regulation would explain that if for a period of two years, a school's yearly average pass rate on the RVT exam falls below 10 percentage points of the state average pass rate for first time candidates, the Board may conduct subsequent inspections.

**3. Amend Section 2065.8.** This proposed amendment would define the circumstances for placing a school on probation, and extends the limit for prescribed probation time to two years. The proposed amendment would require the school to notify current and prospective students and employees of their probationary status in writing.

**4. Adopt Section 2065.8.A.** This proposed amendment would define the circumstances for withdrawal of approval of accreditation.

**5. Adopt Section 2065.8.B.** This proposed regulation would outline procedures to place a school on probation or withdraw approval of accreditation.

**6. Adopt Section 2065.8.C.** This proposed amendment would specify the time frame for notification to the board of program director changes.

### **FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES**

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None

Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

Local Mandate: None

Cost to Any Local Agency or School District for Which Government Code Section 17561 Requires Reimbursement: None

Business Impact:

The board has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

Impact on Jobs/New Businesses:

The board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the creation of jobs or the elimination of jobs or existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in the State of California.

Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business:

The board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Effect on Housing Costs: None

### **EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS**

The board has determined that the proposed regulations would not affect small businesses.

This regulatory proposal involves clarifying the existing regulations relevant to the approval of schools offering a curriculum for training registered veterinary technicians. The changes mainly include more specific references to criteria for evaluation of RVT programs, inspections, probation and withdrawal of approval, and program director and instructor requirements.

### **CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES**

The Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would either be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice.

Any interested person may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the above determinations at the above-mentioned hearing.

### **INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND INFORMATION**

The Board has prepared an initial statement of the reasons for the proposed action and has available all the information upon which the proposal is based.

### **TEXT OF PROPOSAL**

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained at the hearing or prior to the hearing upon request from the Veterinary Medical Board at 1420 Howe Avenue, Suite 6, Sacramento, CA 95825-3228.

### **AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE**

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the final statement of reasons once it has been prepared, by making a written request to the contact person named below.

## **CONTACT PERSON**

Any inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name: Deanne Pearce  
Address: 1420 Howe Avenue, Suite 6  
Sacramento, CA 95825-3228  
Telephone No.: (916) 263-2610.  
Fax No.: (916) 263-2621

The backup contact person is:

Name: Jennifer Thornburg  
Address: 1420 Howe Avenue, Suite 6  
Sacramento, CA 95825-3228  
Telephone No.: (916) 263-2610.  
Fax No.: (916) 263-2621

### **Website Access:**

Materials regarding this proposal can be found at [www.vmb.ca.gov](http://www.vmb.ca.gov).